

UNLOCKING PROPHECY #1

The Master Key to Bible Prophecy

- † Who can you trust? Can you trust God? Can you trust the Bible?
- † The Bible makes some incredible claims: Jesus was resurrected and is coming back, that there was a worldwide flood. It promises peace and forgiveness and eternal life to those who repent and put their trust in Jesus.
- † Who knows the future? Psychics and fortunetellers claim to, but that's ridiculous. Only God knows the future.
- † Isaiah 46:9-10- "Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'"
- † The Prophecy of Daniel 2 is the master key to understanding other chapters in Daniel and Revelation.
- † Daniel 2- God gave Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, a dream in which there was a great image of various metals: Head of Gold, Chest and Arms of Silver, Belly and Thighs of Bronze, Feet of iron and clay. He saw a stone cut out without hands come and crush the metal image.
- † Proverbs 3:5-6- "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."
- † Daniel 2:18-19- Daniel and his three friends pray and seek God to understand the meaning of the King's dream. God wants to hear from each of us. We don't have to be an orator in order to pray!
- † Daniel 2:19- God revealed to Daniel the dream and the interpretation. This prophecy reveals what nations would rule the world up until the Second Coming of Jesus!

The Dream (Daniel 2:28-35)	The Interpretation (Daniel 2:36-45)
Head of Gold	Babylon (Daniel 2:37-39)
Chest & Arms of Silver	Medo-Persia (Daniel 2:39; 8:20)
Belly & Thighs of Bronze	Greece (Daniel 8:21)
Legs of Iron	Rome (Daniel 2:40)
Feet Partly Iron & Partly Clay	Divided Roman Empire/Divided Europe (2:43)
Stone Cut without Hands	Kingdom of God (Daniel 2:44)

Babylon (605 – 539 BC)

- † The city of Babylon was big: 10 Miles around. That's bigger than Rome--which was only 6 miles, and Athens 4 miles.
- † The temple of Marduk was 300 ft. high. Outside it was covered with blue glazed tile. Inside, it was overlaid with gold. In that one temple alone, it is estimated that Nebuchadnezzar used 18 tons of gold.
- † "Nebuchadnezzar made his name in history by destroying Jerusalem in 587 B.C. and driving its inhabitants into 70 years of captivity" (*Time Magazine*, August, 1990).
- † Babylon had a 20-year food supply.

- † “Babylon will be a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals, an object of horror and scorn, a place where no one lives” (Jeremiah 51:37).
- † “Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians” (Daniel 5:28).

Medo-Persia (539 – 331 BC)

- † Cyrus’ army dammed up the river Euphrates, changing its course. Then they marched into Babylon on the dry riverbed. God even named Cyrus approximately 150 years before he was born: “Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—to subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings...” (Isaiah 45:1).
- † The Cyrus cylinder is a historical record written in rock. It is the story of Cyrus attacking Babylon, drying up the Euphrates, and allowing Israel to go free.

Greece (331 – 168 BC)

- † “And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king” (Daniel 8:21).
- † In Daniel 2 the thighs of brass represent Greece, the third empire. But when you come to Daniel 8 it talks about a power described as a male goat that would trample down Medo-Persia. The Bible actually tells us that the name of that third Kingdom, Greece.
- † Who was the large horn or the first king of Greece that overthrew all other empires and overcame the world? Alexander the Great. He led his armies with their bronze armor.
- † “On June 22, 168 B.C., at the Battle of Pydna, perished the empire of Alexander the Great, 144 years after his death.” Theodor Mommsen in his book— The History of Rome (book 3, Chapter 10. p.508)

Rome (168 BC – 476 AD)

- † It was in the days of Rome that Jesus Christ was born as a baby. Joseph and Mary fled from an oppressive Roman Empire and traveled down into Egypt. Later in Jesus’ life He was tried by a Roman governor and killed by Roman soldiers.
- † “The images of gold, silver, or brass, that might serve to represent the nations and their kings, were successively broken by the iron monarchy of Rome.” (Edward Gibbon, The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Ch 38, p. 161)

Divided Roman Empire (476 AD – present)

- † Barbarian tribes attacked Western Europe in the middle of the fourth century. During their ravaging attacks the Roman Empire was divided.
- † All attempts to unite Europe through intermarriage of royalty, wars, etc., have failed, just like the Bible predicted. “. . .They will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another. . .” (Daniel 2:43).

Kingdom of God

- † “And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!’” (Revelation 11:15). Revelation’s final superpower is Jesus Christ’s kingdom.
- † What is the rock that smashes the image? The rock of ages, Jesus Christ. Christ’s supernatural kingdom will come and smash down the kingdoms of this world. It will consume all the previous kingdoms and stand forever (Dan 2:44-45). Daniel and Revelation reveal the same final superpower: Christ’s kingdom that will never end. “The dream is certain, and it’s interpretation is sure.” God’s Word can be trusted!
- † Revelation is full of hope—hope of God’s eternal kingdom. In that kingdom, Revelation 21:1 says the first heaven and the first earth pass away, and the new heaven and new earth take their place. Vs. 4 says God will wipe away our tears, and there won’t be any more death, sorrow, or pain. Revelation is full of hope!
- † Watch this presentation again, or share with a friend by searching for: Centralia SDA Church on Youtube or <https://tinyurl.com/unlockingprophecy>